

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 04245 020659Z

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ACTION EA-10

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P R 020630Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9088

INFO COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA JAPAN

CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4245

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJ: SECDEF VISIT AND JOINT PLANNING

REF: TOKYO 13310 OCT 74

SUMMARY: JDA DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA TOLD DIET HE WOULD
INVITE SECDEF TO JAPAN LATER THIS YEAR AND LINKED INVITATION
TO THE NEED FOR JOINT PLANNING TO IMPLEMENT SECURITY TREATY.
END SUMMARY

1. IN A SESSION OF THE UPPER HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE APRIL 1,
DEFENSE AGENCY DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKATA SAID THAT HE WISHED
TO INVITE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER TO VISIT JAPAN
AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE PRESENT DIET SESSION. ACCORDING TO
PRESS ACCOUNT OF HIS STATEMENT, HE SAID THAT A MAJOR PURPOSE
OF THE MEETING WITH SECDEF WILL BE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECURITY TREATY IN THE EVENT OF AN
EMERGENCY, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO THE SEA AND AIR
DEFENSE OF JAPAN. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH SOME STUDIES HAD BEEN
CONDUCTED AT THE MILITARY LEVEL, DETAILED US-GOJ AGREEMENTS
CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY INCLUDING
ARRANGEMENTS FOR U.S. REENFORCEMENTS DO NOT EXIST AND THAT
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 04245 020659Z

THIS PROBLEM MUST BE SOLVED.

2. SUBJECT AROSE IN DELAYED RESPONSE TO OPPOSITION CHARGE ON MARCH 8 THAT SECRET US-GOJ AGREEMENT EXISTS FOR JOINT USN-JMSDF PROTECTION OF SEA LANES IN AREA BOUNDED BY HAWAII, GUAM, PHILIPPINES AND YOKOSUKA, DEFENSE BUREAU DIRECTOR MARUYAMA DENIED EXISTENCE OF SUCH AGREEMENT, BUT SAKATA TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO STRESS NEED FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING.

3. COMMENT: GOJ OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE

LACK OF PUBLIC POLITICAL LEVEL AUTHORIZATION FOR JOINT CONTINGENCY PLANNING. THE JDA FEELS VULNERABLE ABOUT THE PRESENT SITUATION AND BELIEVES IT NECESSARY TO SHOW POLITICAL LEVEL APPROVAL IF MEANINGFUL PLANNING IS TO PROCEED. AS REPORTED REFTEL, WE HAD SIGNS LAST YEAR THAT SAKATA'S PREDECESSOR PLANNED TO USE HIS MEETING WITH SECDEF TO SURFACE THIS SUBJECT AS A STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF PUBLIC AUTHORIZATION OF JOINT CONTINGENCY PLANNING. SAKATA'S COMMENTS APPEAR TO REFLECT SAME APPROACH AND TO HAVE BEEN MADE STRICTLY IN TERMS OF REQUIREMENTS OF DIET DEBATE. EMBASSY WILL BE DISCUSSING MATTER FURTHER WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE GOJ OFFICIALS.
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